

SENATOR MARSH: No. I'd be glad to hold it over. It was my understanding and the attorney who suggested this felt that it was not mandating that the court should always appoint an attorney for the parent. The child has to have a guardian ad litem but it should be that the protection should be there for the parent as well.

SENATOR BARNETT: Correct. I agree.

SENATOR MARSH: And it was a specific instance and it wasn't in a small community. It happened to be in Omaha where the problem arose so the request came.

SENATOR BARNETT: I think the court erred in that case and if you would I'd like to have you hold. I'll move to hold the bill over for a couple days if you'd do that.

SENATOR MARSH: Fine. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: Is there an objection? There's a request for unanimous consent to hold the bill right where it is for two days. Is there an objection? Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President, I didn't hear the reason for holding it for two days. Perhaps we can resolve it now. I think it's a rather simple issue. I mean, what's the question? Okay, Senator Marsh, why do you feel it's necessary to hold it for two days?

SENATOR MARSH: Sir, I was simply saying I was willing to do so. Senator Barnett said that he felt there should be some additional work on this.

SENATOR STONEY: May I ask Senator Barnett what he needs in the way of additional work?

SENATOR BARNETT: Senator Stoney, what I'm thinking of in the way of additional work is just is to verify that I think they can already do it.

SENATOR STONEY: They can, Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Then we don't need the amendment. I'd like to clear and approve it with everybody and if she wants to go ahead and try it, I told her to go ahead and try it but she may withdraw it after she finds out they can already do it.

SENATOR STONEY: There's already been a Supreme Court decision that says that a judge will notify these parents, pure and simple, so why put it in statute. It's already in common law. It's just codifying what is in common law.

SENATOR BARNETT: I agree with you but sometimes people will continue to try to add amendments to the bill. I'm trying to get it so that it wouldn't happen, that we just prove it to her that this can already be done. If you want to let her try it and object to it, that's fine, because I don't care about holding it over. I think that they can already do it too.

SENATOR STONEY: Well, I know that they can do it. The only thing is this bill has been pending for quite some time. We would like to get it moving. If that's just the question to be resolved of whether or not a judge can do it, yes they can